

By the King.

A Proclamation for reuoking all Licences heretofore granted for erecting new Buildings within the Citie of London, or two miles distance: together with a Restraint for building within the same Compasse.



Hereas Wee, vpon consideration of the great inconueniences dayly arising by the multitude of new Buildings from time to time erected in and neere Our Citie of London: And out of the tender care we haue of the welfare of Our louing Subiects, haue published sundry Our former Proclamations: as wel for restraining of new erections not meete to be tollerated, as for prescribing a forme of Building, in Cases where the same might without inconuenience be permitted. And yet there hath not ensued thereupon such reformation as Our care might expect; But the excesse of new Buildings and erections haue dayly more and more increased, and is still like so to doe; Whereby, and by the immoderate confluence of people thither, Our said City, and the places adioyning, are and dayly will be more and more pestered, all Victuals and other prouision endeared, Malefactor's encouraged, the City and parts adioyning, for the basnesse thereof being not with any ordinary care or prouision of Officers to be gouerned, the health of Our Subiects endangered, and other parts of Our Realme vnpeopled, which inconueniences haue growne to this height, partly by neglect of Our directions in that behalfe, and partly by the abuse of sundry Licenses, Tollerations and Dispensations, some of which haue been granted by others, without sufficient warrant or authority from Us, and others which haue been granted by Us, are not only defectiue in Law, both in respect of the misobteyning of the same vpon vntrue suggestions, and otherwise, but also in the execution thereof, haue bene so farre abused and strained beyond Our intention, and all moderat bounds that in Our Princely care and zeale to the good of Our people, we may not omit to vse all Lawfull meanes for a due reformation of these so great inconueniences: And therefore it being consonant to Law vpon so iust grounds, to reuoke and make voyd all the said Licenses.

we doe hereby signifie and declare Our Will and pleasure to Reuoke and determine; and doe hereby (as much as in Us lyeth) from hencefoorth reuoke and determine all and singular Licenses, made or granted for the Erecting, Building or setting vp any Houses or Buildings within Our said City of London, or within two miles of any the gates of the said Citie, contrary to Our intencion herein expressed.

And we doe hereby charge & command, that no person or persons whatsoever shal at any time hereafter presume to erect or Build any maner of house or Building whatsoever, within Our said City of London, or within two miles of any the Gates of the same City, either within Liberties or without, by force of any such Licence reuoked, or by any other colour or pretext whatsoever, except the same be vpon an old Foundation of an House or Building erected and finished, before the Feast of S. Michael Th' archangel, in the thirteenth yeere of Our reigne ouer this Our Realme of England: Nor to erect any dwelling house vpon the Foundation of any Barne, Stable, Shed or other Building, not formerly vled for habitation, but that they & euery of them doe from hencefoorth utterly surcease and desist from all maner of Erections and Buildings whatsoever to be made, except they be vpon old Foundations as aforesaid, which we will not shalbe exceeded or enlarged in the setting vp of such new Building.

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And further, That all and every person and persons, which at any time hereafter shall erect, build, or set up within any the Limits, Places or Precincts aforesaid, any manner of Houses, or other Buildings whatsoever, shall make and build the same of such height, and in such manner and forme as herein is expressed (That is to say) Every whole Story of and in such Houses and Buildings; and all & every the Roomes of such whole Story shall be of the height of ten foote of Aulse at the least; And every halfe Story of and in such Houses and Buildings, shall be of the height of seven foote & a halfe of aulse at the least: And that the Forefront, & outer Walles & Windows thereof shall be of Brick, or of Brick and Stone: And if the said building do not exceede two Stories in height, then the Walles thereof shall be of the thicknes of one Bricks and halfe a Bricks length from the ground vnto the vppermost part of the said Wall: And where the building shall be above the height of two Stories, the Walles of the first Story shall be of the thicknesse of two Bricks length; and from thence vnto the vppermost part of the Wall, of the thicknes of one Bricks and halfe a Bricks length: And that in building of the said Houses, there shall be no Jutties, orutting Windows, either vpon Timber ioynts, or otherwise, but the Walles to go direct & straight vpwards, and at the setting off, a water table to be made. Also the Lights in the Windows of every whole Story to be of more height then bredth, to the end there may be a sufficient peece of Brick betweene the Windows for strength: And likewise the Windows of every halfe Story to be made square every way, or neere thereabouts. And lastly, that all Shops in every principal Street of Trade, be made with Pillasters of hard Stone or Brick cut in wedges Archwise, vpon paine that all persons directly or indirectly neglecting or disobeying this our Proclamation, or doing any thing contrary to the tenor thereof, or of any part thereof, shall endure and abide such Censure in Our high Court of Starre-Chamber, as shall be adiudged against them for their offences, & as contemners of Our Royall Commandement. And wee do also straitly charge and command all and singular Maiors, Sherriffes, Iustices of Peace, and all other Our Officers and Ministers, That they and every of them vse all diligence to see the premisses well & duely performed, and do by all lawfull wayes and meanes hinder and restraine all proceedings and attempts to the contrary of Our pleasure herein declared. And if any person or persons shall by colour of any such Licence, Toleration or Dispensation, as aforesayd, doe, or attempt any thing contrary to this Our Proclamation, the said Maiors, Sherriffes, Iustices of Peace, & other Our Officers and Ministers shall neuertheless proceede in the execution of this Our Royall Commandement vntill vpon due examination of the validitie of the same Licences, Tolerationes or Dispensationes, they shall receiue other direction from Us or Our Prīue Councell.

Given at Our Palace of Westminster the twentieth day of Iuly, in the sixteenth yere of Our Raigne of England, France and Ireland, and of Scotland the ~~xxxv~~ and Fiftieth.

God saue the King.

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*Excellent Maiestie.*

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